



Search Warrant Task Force
Securing Committee
September 14, 2021

Minutes

- I. Securing Committee convened. Members present: Denise Bentley, Ramon McGee, and David Nicholson, and Nicolai Jelik.
- II. Approval of the minutes from previous meeting of the Securing Committee. Motion made by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. McGee – motion passed unanimously.
- III. Discussion
 - a. Mr. McGee initiated discussion regarding the role of prosecutors and judges in the warrant review process. Debate arose out of the degree of neutrality that can be maintained in order to preserve the integrity of the Fourth Amendment that searches be neutral and detached. Mr. Nicholson noted that the statistics from e-warrants will show the patterns and data trends, providing a degree of accountability.
 - b. Discussion then moved to law enforcement review of properties before search warrants are executed. Having standardized checklists was a tool identified as being useful in determining the best time/manner to execute warrants (e.g. indication of children present at property – swing set, tricycle, etc.)
 - c. Ms. Bentley mentioned the timetable of the Task Force, expressing that the Committee will likely need to continue beyond the deadline to iron out the details for best practices of securing search warrants. The other Committee members concurred with Ms. Bentley.
 - d. Discussion then moved to having a permanent review panel. Mr. Jelik suggested that such a panel should have a broad membership of judicial and law enforcement influence. Mr. Nicholson maintain that review panels have been highly successful with domestic violence.
 - e. Mr. Nicholson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Bentley. The motion passed unanimously; Committee was adjourned.